



## Network News

July 2023

### New State Budget Includes \$20 Million in Operational Support for Ohio's DV Programs

Thanks to an extraordinary grassroots effort, the 2024-25 state budget includes \$20 million in operational support for Ohio's domestic violence programs, a significant increase over the last budget.

ODVN is especially grateful to Gov. Mike DeWine and Attorney General Dave Yost, who included that amount in their budgets, and the many legislative champions who ensured the funding was not cut while the proposed budget made its way through the approval process.

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### ODVN and OAESV Staffers Advocate on Capitol Hill for Increased Funding for Services

In partnership with the Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence, ODVN representatives advocated for increased funding for domestic violence and sexual assault survivors on Capitol Hill. During meetings with House and Senate staffers in June, they stressed the importance of ensuring the federal budget includes sufficient funding to meet survivors' housing, legal, economic, safety, and other urgent needs.

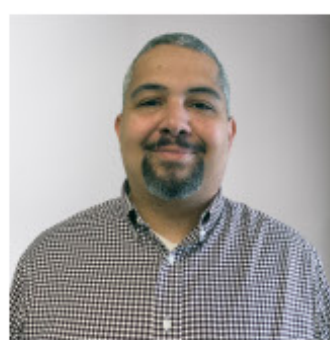
Staffers Lisa DeGeeter and Maria York attended meetings with staff for both Ohio Senators and 11 of the 15 Representatives (Reps. Bob Latta, Troy Balderson, Jim Jordan, Dave Joyce, Bill Johnson, Brad Wenstrup, Max Miller, Marcy Kaptur, Warren Davidson, and Emilia Sykes.) OAESV's CEO Rosa Beltre, VP of Operations Shandra Ingram, and Director of Public Policy Emily Gemar attended along with Kristin Shrimplin, CEO of Women Helping Women in Cincinnati, Teresa Stafford, CEO of Hope and Healing Survivor Resource Center in Akron, and Dr. Jen Seifert, Executive Director of Survivor Advocacy Outreach Program in Athens.



From left to right: Maria York, ODVN Policy Director, Margaret McInnis, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur's DC Staff Director and Appropriations Lead, Emily Gemar, OAESV Policy Director, Teresa Stafford, Chief Executive Officer of Hope & Healing Survivor Resource Center and Donya Buchanan, Chair of ODVN Board of Directors. Rep. Marcy Kaptur serves the 9th congressional district and is the longest-serving woman in congressional history serving her 21st term.

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### ODVN Announces New Hires



**John Calhoun** is ODVN's new Empowerment Evaluator and Data Analyst and will be working with the Prevention Team to create and manage an evaluation plan for the work of the DELTA AHEAD project. He will also assist with other data projects, including the annual fatality report. John holds a B.A. in Sociology and Political Science and an M.S. in Sociology with a specialization in study design and research methodology, both from Ohio University. He has experience in the private and government sectors. John is looking forward to using his skills in visualizing and using data analytics for storytelling to advance ODVN's mission.



**Domarita Lopez-Wilson** is ODVN's Administrative Assistant. She comes to ODVN with multiple years of administrative experience and a degree in computer science. She directly supports Executive Director Mary O'Doherty and Director of Administration Becky Mason. Along with supporting office management, Domarita is the first face you see and the voice you hear when contacting ODVN. She is married and has two sons and two granddaughters.

### Thank You to our Funders!



The **City of Columbus** for \$100,000 for our direct-assistance hotel program. The funding from the Elevate 2.0 program will serve survivors in Columbus who must shelter in hotels because our member programs lack the capacity to serve them.

The **Longaberger Family Foundation** for \$35,000 to support legislative advocacy work.



Also, thank you to these donors for donating to our Relocation Assistance program:

- \$10,000 from the **PNC Foundation** in the 58 counties that PNC bank serves in Ohio
- \$48,000 from the **Allstate Foundation** to advance and support the economic empowerment of survivors of domestic violence
- \$10,000 from **Victoria's Secret and Co. Foundation**, thanks to ODVN Board member and treasurer Dana Apostolec
- \$5,000 from the **Honda of America Foundation** for survivors in Allen, Champaign, Clark, Delaware, Franklin, Logan, Marion, Miami, Montgomery, Shelby, and Union counties
- \$2,500 from the **T. Marzetti Foundation**, thanks to ODVN Board member Helena Josue

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